SWAMI RAMANAND TEERTH MARATHWADA UNIVERSITY

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Synopsis

Research Topic

"The Role of Government Initiatives in the Empowerment of Widow Women With Special Reference to Latur District"

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1. Introduction:

Widowhood, a complex and often marginalized phase in a woman's life, presents multifaceted socio-economic challenges that significantly impact the empowerment and well-being of women, particularly in regions such as Latur district. The experiences of widowhood encompass a range of issues encompassing financial constraints, limited access to education and employment, societal stigmatization, and legal vulnerabilities, which collectively intersect to affect the socio-economic status of women in this demographic. Latur district, situated in the heart of Maharashtra, India, reflects a societal landscape where widow women encounter numerous hurdles in their pursuit of empowerment and autonomy. Widowhood, often accompanied by the loss of a spouse, not only entails emotional trauma but also imposes practical challenges, leaving women in vulnerable positions where they grapple with economic insecurities and social marginalization. This research embarks on a comprehensive exploration aimed at understanding the intricate dynamics of the socio-economic challenges faced by widow women in Latur district. It delves into an analysis of the various facets of their empowerment, focusing particularly on the impact of governmental interventions and initiatives designed to ameliorate their circumstances.

The primary objective of this study is to investigate the extent and nature of socioeconomic hurdles encountered by widow women in Latur. It aims to scrutinize the depth of these challenges, encompassing financial constraints, limited educational opportunities, restricted access to healthcare, legal vulnerabilities, and societal biases. Moreover, the research endeavours to evaluate the efficacy and impact of governmental initiatives targeted at empowering widow women, exploring how these programs intersect with the challenges faced, ultimately shaping their empowerment trajectory.

Through an interdisciplinary lens encompassing elements of sociology, economics, gender studies, and public policy, this study seeks to unearth the underlying factors contributing to the perpetuation of socio-economic disparities among widow women. It aims to shed light on the existing gaps in the support systems available to this demographic and to provide valuable insights into potential areas of improvement within governmental frameworks and community support networks.

By documenting the lived experiences, challenges, and successes of widow women in Latur district, this research aspires to contribute to a nuanced understanding of their socio-economic realities. Furthermore, it aims to offer pragmatic recommendations and actionable insights that can foster more inclusive policies, programs, and support mechanisms, thereby enhancing the socio-economic empowerment of widow women in Latur and serving as a potential model for similar contexts globally.

2. Literature Review:

Meenaxi Kamat (2018), In research paper "The Study of Social and Economic Empowerment of Women through Self Help Groups in Mumbai City." This is the study to Strengthen economic empowerment of vulnerable group. It creates awareness and advocating for the rights of a particular group. To enhance psychological aspects of learning skills and effective perception of women which involves recognizing themselves.

Ku. Anita Patra (2004), in her research paper "A special study with special reference to the rural widows of Jaipur district of Orissa. "It analysed various challenges such as financial instability, social loneliness and their status i.e. varies across cultures and societies. Conducting interview, highlighted problems through different case study for support widowed women in rural areas of Jaipur district.

Niharika (2020), in their research paper "A Critical study on Socio Economic development and women empowerment in India Role of NGOs in Hazaribagh district A case study since 2005." Hazaribagh district uplifting the overall socio-economic conditions and empowering women through central and state government scheme and programmes by NGO. Family income, dignity and respect, economic value, role of NGO s, women empowerment status are measured their effectiveness and address issues such as literacy, skill enhancement, healthcare and job opportunity. The research design used in this study includes both exploratory and descriptive research

3. Research Gap:

While broader studies on widowed women exist, there is lack of comprehensive and context-specific studies focusing on the socio-economic challenges faced by widow women in Latur district.

4. Objectives:

Following objectives are outlined for the fulfilment of expectations of research topic.

1. To identify social challenges faced by widow women in Latur district.
2. To identify economic challenges faced by widow women in Latur district.
3. To evaluate the level of awareness and utilization of government initiatives among widow women in Latur.
4. To examine the effectiveness and impact of government initiatives on the socio-economic empowerment of widow women.
5. To propose policy recommendations and strategies for enhancing the empowerment of widow women in Latur.

5. Hypothesis:

Hypothesis 1:

H0- The socio-economic challenges faced by widow women in Latur district do not significantly hinder their overall empowerment.

H1- The socio-economic challenges faced by widow women in Latur district significantly hinder their overall empowerment.

Hypothesis 2:

H0- There is no significant difference in the level of awareness of widow women in rural and urban areas of Latur district about government initiatives.

H1- There is a significant difference in the level of awareness of widow women in rural and urban areas of Latur district about government initiatives.

Hypothesis 3:

H0- There is no significant difference in the socio-economic empowerment levels of widow women in rural and urban areas of Latur district through government initiatives.

H1- There is a significant difference in the socio-economic empowerment levels of widow women in rural and urban areas of Latur district through government initiatives.

6. Research Methodology:

Qualitative Research and Quantitative Research:

In-depth Interviews: Conduct in-depth interviews with a diverse sample of widow women in Latur district. These interviews will explore their experiences, socio-economic challenges, coping mechanisms, perceptions of government initiatives, and barriers to empowerment.

Quantitative Research:

Survey Questionnaires: Develop structured surveys to gather quantitative data from a larger sample of widow women. Include questions related to socioeconomic status, awareness and utilization of government initiatives, access to resources, and perceived impact on empowerment.

Statistical Analysis: Use statistical tools to analyze survey data and identify correlations between variables, such as the relationship between participation in government programs and socio-economic indicators.

Sample size:

200 Sample. 100 sample size from Urban and Rural area each.

7. Research design:

Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 Background and Context - Overview of the socio-economic challenges faced by widow women in Latur - Importance of studying the empowerment of widow women.

1.2 Research Problem - Identification of the research gap.

1.3 The need for understanding the impact of government initiatives.

Chapter 2: Literature Review

Conceptual Framework - Summary of previous research on the empowerment of widow women - Gaps identified in the existing literature.

Chapter 3: Methodology

Population and Sample - Definition of the target population and sample selection criteria - Data Collection - Data Analysis.

Chapter 4: Socio-economic Challenges Faced by Widow Women

4.1 Economic Challenges- Income disparities, employment opportunities, financial stability.

4.2 Social Challenges - Stigma, social isolation, cultural factors.

4.3 Psychological Challenges

Chapter 5: Government Initiatives for Empowerment

5.1 Overview of Government Programs

5.2 Analysis of Program Effectiveness

Chapter 6: Impact Assessment

6.1 Quantitative Analysis -Statistical evaluation of the impact of government initiatives.

6.2 Qualitative Analysis - In-depth interviews, case studies, and narratives.

Chapter 7: Recommendations

Policy Recommendations - Suggestions for improving existing government initiatives.

Chapter 8: Conclusion

Summary of Findings - Recapitulation of key findings from the study.

8. References:

1. Meenaxi Kamat (2018),in research paper "The Study of Social and Economical Empowerment of Women through Self Help Groups in Mumbai City." URI: http://hdl.handle.net/10603/322142
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3. Niharika, A Critical study on Socio Economic development and women empowerment in India Role of NGOs in Hazaribagh district A case study since 2005., http://hdl.handle.net/10603/407140
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5. https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/simplesearch?query=Widow+women&go=

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